



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

54

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/511,408	02/23/2000	Toshihiro Sasai	80959	3948
20350	7590	08/25/2005	EXAMINER	
TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP			YODER III, CRISS S	
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
EIGHTH FLOOR			2612	
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834				

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action  
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

09/511,408

Applicant(s)

SASAI ET AL.

Examiner

Chriss S. Yoder, III

Art Unit

2612

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

THE REPLY FILED 01 April 2005 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1.  The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a)  The period for reply expires    months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
 b)  The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2.  The Notice of Appeal was filed on 01 April 2005. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3.  The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
 (a)  They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
 (b)  They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
 (c)  They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
 (d)  They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4.  The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5.  Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.

6.  Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7.  For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a)  will not be entered, or b)  will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-10.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8.  The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9.  The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10.  The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

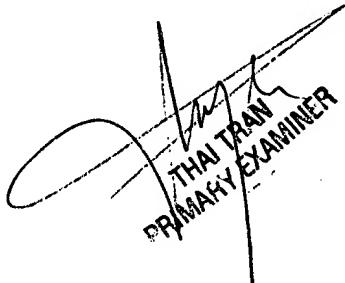
REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11.  The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: see attachment.

12.  Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

13.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Applicant argues, with respect to claim 1, that any white balance performed by Sawanobori is temporary, as the corrected image is not stored or saved beyond the LCD output. However, the examiner points out that the storage of the corrected image is not found in claim 1.
2. Applicant also argues, with respect to claim 1, that Sawanobori does not describe the specific method by which white balancing of the image is done, and does not specifically state that the correction coefficients for the colors of each pixel are used in the image correction process or give any further details as to how the white balancing is performed. However, Sawanobori discloses the use of a correction coefficient for each of the colors (RGB) that are used on each pixel in the image correction process (column 5, lines 50-61).
3. Applicant also argues, with respect to claim 1, that Sawanobori makes no reference at all to any image processing steps done after the color image has been passed through the A/D converter. However, the examiner points out that the use of image processing after the color image has been passed through the A/D converter is not found in claim 1.
4. Applicant also argues, with respect to claim 1, that Sawanobori makes no reference at all to any concept of correcting and maintaining the signal in an analog state, and that Sawanobori show the storage of the image signal done in a digital medium. However, the examiner points out that the storage of the corrected image is not found in claim 1.
5. Applicant argues, with respect to claim 4, that Vogel does not disclose the correction of white balance on an analog signal. However, the examiner notes that the Vogel reference was not relied upon for the feature of image processing on an analog signal, Sawanobori was relied upon to teach the use of an analog image processing device. Vogel was merely used to teach the use of a first and second processing section.
6. Applicant argues, with respect to claim 6-10, that Sakaguchi would not solve the problem addressed by the invention, and that the solution offered by the claimed invention would deal with the problems identified by Sakaguchi more effectively than Sakaguchi. However, the examiner points out that the combination of Sawanobori in view of Sakaguchi does disclose the features of the claimed invention, as can be seen in the previous office action. By applicant stating that the claimed invention would deal with the problems more effectively, does not make the claims allowable.



THAI TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER